



# General Bulletin

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## Requirement to Identify Road Permits on Forest Development Plans

### ***Background***

Section 58 of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* (Act) states that a person may only construct or modify a road if the road is identified in a forest development plan (FDP) or an access management plan (AMP) and is authorized under a road permit. This limitation may restrict the approval of road permits where a FDP is still under review, or if the road is not identified in the existing FDP or AMP. There are several alternatives that the district manager could use in approval of road permit applications.

One recommendation to operations division is to develop an AMP that provides for issuance of road permits. It must be noted that legislation for AMPs was not developed with the objective of providing a process to circumvent FDP requirements. In addition, there are no requirements for access management plans to be developed during the two year transition period of the Act.

### ***Recommendation***

The following is provided for consideration of district managers before issuance of road permits and is ***not*** intended as Ministry policy or legal interpretation.

1. Amend the existing FDP or delay approval of the road permit until the new plan is approved.
2. Development of AMPs to allow issuance of road permits in the absence of a FDP is not advised at this time. Currently, operational planning requirements mandated under the Act dictate an AMP be assigned as low priority.
3. If road construction is essential to ongoing timber removal and the road is not already identified in a FDP or AMP, district managers are advised to satisfy themselves that the location is not contrary to the intent of the operational planning regulation (OPR) and assess the risk of issuing the authority in the absence of the approved FDP or AMP.

## ***Contacts***

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